I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service Express Mail service, label no. EV233438245US, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE. Commissioner for Patents B Box 145, Algorithms and the service of the service o

addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below

Docket No.: 29757/AG42

Examiner: Robert J. Mendoza

(PATENT)

Dated: January 13, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of:

E. Cannon, et al.

Filed: August 17, 2001

Application No.: 09/932,741

Art Unit: 3713

For: CLASS OF FEATURE EVENT GAMES SUITABLE FOR LINKING TO MULTIPLE

GAMING MACHINES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700